

News Release

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Mississippi Valley Division

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MVD gets New Real Estate Chief

VICKSBURG, Miss., February 3, 2000 -- Mr. Charles Barton became the new Chief of Real Estate for the Mississippi Valley Division/Mississippi River Commission, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, January 17.

The Mississippi Valley Division is responsible for Corps water resource programs in a 370,000-square-mile area of the Mississippi River valley extending from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. The programs and activities overseen by the MVD and MRC are conducted by district offices located in St. Paul, Minn., Rock Island, Ill., St. Louis, Mo., Memphis, Tenn., Vicksburg, Miss., and New Orleans, La. The presidentially appointed Mississippi River Commission is responsible for the comprehensive Mississippi River and Tributaries flood control and navigation project.

Mr. Barton received a bachelor of science degree from Harding University, Searcy, Ark., and a master of science degree in public administration from Troy State University, Troy, Ala. He is also a graduate of the Army Management Staff College, Ft. Belvoir, Va.

Prior to this assignment, Mr. Barton was Chief of Real Estate in the Corps' Kansas City District, Kansas City, Mo. Mr. Barton's career with the Corps began in the Mobile District, Mobile, Ala., in 1985 where he worked in the Management and Disposal Branch for three years before moving to the Planning and Control Branch where he served as chief of the Planning Unit. In October of 1990, he deployed to Saudi Arabia for six months in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm where he served as Deputy Chief of the Dhahran Real Estate Division. In 1992, Mr. Barton participated in the initial planning to

create a rapid deployable real estate team to support deployed forces. This team became known as the Contingency Real Estate Support Team (CREST). In April of 1994, he was selected as the first Chief of CREST.

Mr. Barton's awards include the Commanders Award for Civilian Service; Desert Shield/Desert Storm Civilian Medal; two Achievement Medals for Civilian Service; Headquarters, U.S Army Corps of Engineers Real Estate Directors Award; Meritorious Civilian Service Award; and the deFleury Medal.

Charles and his wife, Sherry, have two children and four grandchildren.